

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting and/or identifying bacteria present in a liquid or solid sample, wherein:
 - a. the sample that may contain said bacteria is placed in a liquid culture medium, in a first container;
 - b. a second container comprising at least one system for detecting said bacteria is provided separate from said first container;
 - c. a means of transfer between the first container and the second container is provided, said means of transfer comprising at least a first opening in the first container and at least a second opening in the second container, such that the second container delimits~~defines~~ a first volume of air between the second opening of the transfer means and the at least one system for detecting said bacteria and/or delimits a second volume of air between the first opening and the second opening;
 - d. a temperature T1 is applied inside the second container; then
 - e. a temperature T2 is applied inside the second container;
 - f. the temperatures T1 and T2 are applied inside the second container at an exponential growth phase of the bacteria;
f.g. the temperature T1 is higher than the temperature T2;
 - h. the temperatures T1 and T2 are applied inside the second container such that a predetermined~~defined~~ volume of culture medium with bacteria is transferred from the first container to the second container;

- i. the temperatures T1 and T2 are maintained such that the bacteria remain viable; and
- j. the presence or absence of bacteria is determined and/or the bacteria are identified with the at least one system for detecting said bacteria in said second containerwithin the detection system.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein T1 is between 25 and 45°C.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein T2 is between 4 and 24°C.

6-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A kit for detecting and/or identifying bacteria by means of implementing the method according to Claim 1.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 4, wherein T1 is between 30 and 42°C.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 5, wherein T2 is between 13 and 18°C.